

by the document control number (OPTS-42080B) to:

TSCA Public Information Office (TS-793), Office of Toxic Substances, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. NE-G004, 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Edward A. Klein, Director, TSCA Assistance Office (TS-799), Office of Toxic Substances, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. E-543, 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 554-1404.

Persons interested in attending the public meeting should notify EPA by telephone before May 28, 1987.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** EPA has issued amendments to the procedural regulations in 40 CFR Part 790, which govern the development and implementation of testing requirements under section 4 of TSCA. These amendments establish procedures for using enforceable consent agreements to develop testing requirements under section 4 of the Act. This notice serves three purposes under those procedures. First, it announces a public meeting to initiate testing negotiations for the chemicals. Second, it requests "interested parties", who wish to participate in testing negotiations for the three triethylene glycol ethers proposed for testing by EPA, to identify themselves to the Agency. Third, it proposes a target schedule for implementation of the consent agreement process for the chemicals under consideration.

#### I. Identification of Interested Parties

Under 40 CFR 790.22 the testing negotiation procedures are initiated by the publication of a Federal Register notice which invites persons interested in participating in or monitoring negotiations for the development of a consent agreement to notify the Agency in writing. Those individuals and groups who respond to EPA's notice by the deadline established in the notice will have the status of "interested parties" and will be afforded opportunities to participate in the negotiation process. These "interested parties" will not incur any obligations by being designated "interested parties". The procedures for these negotiations are described in 40 CFR 790.22.

Individuals and groups desiring to have the status of "interested parties" in the development of testing consent agreements for the three triethylene glycol ethers should submit a written notice of this fact to the Agency at the address given above on or before June 8,

[OPTS-42080B; FRL 3203-6]

#### Testing Consent Agreement Development for Chemical Substances Under TSCA Section 4; Solicitation for Public Participation

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** EPA issued a proposed test rule on three triethylene glycol ethers (triethylene glycol monomethyl ether, CAS No. 112-35-8; triethylene glycol monoethyl ether, CAS No. 112-50-5; triethylene glycol monobutyl ether, CAS No. 143-22-8) published in the Federal Register of May 15, 1986 (51 FR 17883). The Agency is considering a testing consent agreement for these three chemicals and is soliciting public participation in the process. EPA invites persons interested in becoming involved in or monitoring negotiations for the development of a consent agreement to identify themselves as "interested parties". A public meeting is announced to discuss the Agency's consideration of a testing consent agreement for these chemicals.

**DATES:** Submit written notice of interest to be designated an "interested party" on or before June 8, 1987. A public meeting will be held on May 28, 1987.

**ADDRESS:** Submit written notice of interest in being designated an "interested party" in triplicate identified

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1987. The Agency is considering initiating the consent agreement process rather than finalizing the proposed rule for these chemicals because EPA believes the consent agreement process will lead to the development of necessary test data significantly earlier.

The Agency has not previously applied the consent order process to chemicals for which testing has already been proposed, but in this instance an exception is being made because: (1) The Interim Final Rule on consent order procedures was published after the proposed rule on the triethylene glycol ethers, and (2) an industry group approached EPA with some testing in progress and plans for further studies. EPA would like to examine this proposal in the context of a testing consent order.

## II. Public Meetings

A public meeting will be held to discuss EPA's evaluation of testing needs for these chemicals and industry's proposal on May 28, 1987 at 1:30 p.m. This meeting will be held in Room 103, Northeast Mall, EPA Headquarters, 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460. Persons interested in attending this meeting should notify the EPA TSCA Assistance Office by telephone at the telephone number listed above on or before May 26, 1987.

## III. Timetable for Negotiating Consent Agreements

In accordance with the procedures for the development of consent agreements established in 40 CFR 790.22, the following target schedule is established for the three triethylene glycol ethers. EPA has shortened the negotiating time for these chemicals because: (1) The process is beginning after the proposal, and (2) an industry group has already come together and been able to agree on some joint testing.

May 28, 1987—Public meeting to discuss EPA's preliminary testing decisions.

June 8, 1987—Deadline for the notice of interested party designation.

June 19, 1987—Decision by EPA on whether to use consent order or finalize test rule.

July 13, 1987—Draft consent order sent to interested parties for comment (if EPA decides to use the consent order).

October 5, 1987—Issue consent order.

Dated: May 14, 1987.

J. Merenda,

Director, Existing Chemical Assessment Division.

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